REMARKS

Claims 1 and 3 to 10, as amended, plus new claims 11 and 12 remain in this application and are presented for reconsideration.

Examiner Ricci is thanked for courteously granting a telephone interview that was held February 25, 2004, where these claims were discussed.

Claim 1 has been amended to incorporate the features of original Claim 2 and also to incorporate the dual adjustment feature for the so-called burger button, i.e., with both the nipple 58 and the nut 62 being rotatably adjustable, so that the position of the roller 42 and the force of the coil spring 60 can both be adjusted. This feature is described in the specification at page 6, lines 1 through 7.

Claim 6 has been rewritten into independent form to recite details of the right to left adjustment that results from the dovetail, i.e., transverse rail and mating transverse channel, with the adjustment screw 68. In particular, Claim 6 now specifically calls out the finger wheel that is disposed on a laterally extending end portion of the adjustment screw so that the archer can make fine left to right adjustments in the field, i.e., during a shooting session.

Claim 7, which depends from Claim 6, recites specifically the mechanism for locking the dovetail, including the presence of the horizontal cut through, and the set screw that passes through the block portion across the cut through, but does not contact the adjustment screw directly.

The lateral shot adjustment feature as recited in Claims 6 and 7 is described in the specification at page 6, lines 8 to 20.

Claim 11 is added to recite that the guide rollers, e.g., 42, 44, 46, are light-weight low-friction guide rollers that have cylindrical contact surfaces. Claim 12, which depends from independent Claim 1, also recites that feature.

Claims 1 to 10, as originally filed, were rejected under 35 USC §103(a) as being

allegedly obvious and unpatentable over Halamay in view of Johnson. Halamay shows a similar three-roller arrow rest, but with differences from the present invention in the carriage adjustment for the center roller, differences in the rollers themselves, i.e., 30, 42, 44, 46, and differences in the left-to-right adjustment, i.e., the slots 21 and hex screws 20 of Halamay. Johnson was cited for showing a screw operated dovetail adjustment but for an arrow rest of the type using a support blade 82 that supports the arrow only from underneath. Johnson's dovetail adjustment feature differs in its lack of any finger wheel, so that field adjustment of the arrow rest becomes difficult, and also differs in its set screw, which employs a nylon "packing disk" 41 at the end of the set screw 39, and which bears directly onto the threads of the adjustment screw.

Both Halamay and Johnson lack any suggestion of the feature of Amended Claim 1, in which the nipple the said nut are both rotatable to adjust both the position of the third guide roller and the spring tension applied by the spring between the nipple and the carriage. These references fail to show or suggest the structure of the dovetail means as recited in Amended Claim 6, in which the adjustment screw being rotatable to slide the rest portion relative to said block portion, and has a portion extending laterally beyond the transverse rail and the transverse channel, and a finger wheel on the laterally extending portion to permit left-to-right center shot adjustment in the field. The references also lack any suggestion of the feature of Claim 7, in which the block portion has a horizontal cut through it, and a set screw passes through the block portion across said horizontal cut but not out of contact with said adjustment screw, for causing the transverse channel and transverse rail of said dovetail means to squeeze against one another to lock the same in place. Claim 8 recites specifically the feature that the first and second coil springs support the associated guide rollers but do not interfere with rotation of the associated guide rollers.

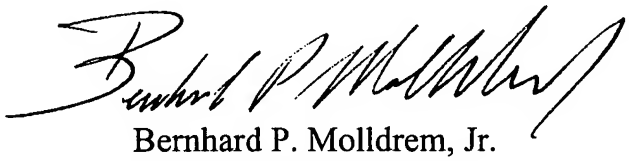
Claims 11 and 12 specifically recite the feature that the guide rollers are light-weight, low friction rollers and have generally cylindrical contact surfaces, unlike the rollers 40, 44,

and 46 of Halamay. The disadvantages of rollers with concave contact surfaces (as in Halamay) are discussed at page 1, line 25 to page 2, line 2, and the advantages of the arrangement of this invention are discussed at page 5, lines 13 to 16.

Additional prior art references were made of record as being pertinent to the disclosure, but were not relied upon. These include patents to Gunter, Lightcap, Jr., Stewart, Jessee et al., and Evans. Applicant has reviewed these additional references, and agrees with what is apparently the Examiner's assessment, that these do not anticipate or suggest the subject matter defined in the claims now being asserted.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, it is urged that all of Claims 1 and 3 to 12, as amended or newly presented, are patentable, and early and favorable consideration is solicited.

Respectfully submitted,



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